

NOVEMBER 17.

Mr. THOMAS MEEHAN, Vice-President, in the chair.

Thirty-four persons present.

A paper entitled "On new and hitherto unfigured Japanese Mollusks," by H. A. Pilsbry was presented for publication.

The deaths of S. R. Knight M. D., a member, November 13 and of John C. Jay, a correspondent, November 15, were announced,

*A New Meteoric Iron from Garrett County, Maryland.*—DR. A. E. FOOTE announced the discovery of a new meteoric iron from Garrett county, Md., about twelve miles from the P. O. of Lonaconing, not far from the boundary of Pennsylvania. It was ploughed up about three or four years ago by a boy in a field. According to an analysis by Dr. Koenig it contains over eleven per cent. of nickel and cobalt, the proportion of cobalt being very high.

It is one of the best octahedral etching irons known, being even more characteristic than most of those that have been used for printing directly on paper. Besides the striking reticulated octahedral structure it shows a large number of secondary lines regularly disposed with reference to the principal marking. These I believe to be similar to those described by Prof. J. Lawrence Smith, in a Wisconsin meteorite, under the name of Laphamite markings. The original weight was forty-five ounces, but it has been reduced by analysis, cutting, polishing, etc., to thirty-six and a half ounces. The locality is especially interesting as being one of the very few discovered in the middle or eastern states.

The following is Prof. J. Lawrence Smith's description of the Laphamite markings on the Wisconsin iron, which would apply equally well to the Garrett County Siderite, "The Widmannstätten figures are (*a*), bright metallic, with convex ends and sides; (*b*), of a darker color are the other markings, usually smaller, and with the sides and ends concave.

The material of which these dark figures are composed seems to have enveloped the lighter colored portion, which serves to make the dark lines so beautifully conspicuous. A good pocket-glass will show that the dark figures are striated with lines at right angles to the bounding surfaces. When the figure is nearly square the lines extend from each of the four sides, but when much elongated, they are parallel to the longer sides. Often these lines do not reach the middle of the figure, where only a confused crystallization can be detected. In the interior of the elongated figures the lines are quite irregular, often running together, and showing a striking resemblance to woody fiber. The nature of these markings may be easily understood. They indicate the axes of minute columnar crystals, which tend to assume a position at right angles to the surface on cooling."